

ABSTRACT

The instant invention is a valve for the top end of skin diving snorkels having a conduit with an open end above the water surface, and an underwater end that terminates in a mouthpiece. The mouthpiece provides a flow path between the conduit and the interior of the diver's mouth. The conduit's above water opening is in-line with the conduit's longitudinal axis, thereby providing a substantially straight and unrestricted respiratory flow path. The top valve consists of a soft diaphragm mounted on a compound linkage. The linkage is attached to the conduit adjacent the top opening. A float activates the valve linkage whenever the snorkel starts to descend below the water surface. By the time the open end of snorkel is underwater, the linkage has moved the diaphragm over and against the top opening thereby preventing water from entering the conduit. Conversely, when the top of the snorkel is above the water surface, the diaphragm is moved by the linkage to the side of the conduit, completely away from the top opening and out of the respiratory flow path.

Patent Application of Tony Christianson titled **FLIP TOP VALVE FOR DRY SNORKELS.**